

Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00

EB-07 FMC-02 INR-07 NSAE-00 CG-00 OFA-01 DLOS-05

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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8653

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EWWT, UK, JA

SUBJECT: UK/JAPAN SHIPPING TALKS,MARCH 11, 1975

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF STATEMENT ISSUED AT CONCLUSION OF TALKS BETWEEN
UK AND JAPANESE SHIPPING INDUSTRY OFFICIALS ON MARCH 11, 1975:

BEGIN TEXT: LEADERS OF THE JAPANESE SHIPPING INDUSTRY TODAY
CONFERRED, UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF MR. YAMASHITA, PRESIDENT OF JSA,
WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL OF BRITISH SHIPPING
LED BY SIR LINDSAY ALEXANDER.

THEY REVIEWED MANY PROBLEMS OF WORLD SHIPPING AND CONFIRMED THE
CONTINUING GENERAL IDENTITY OF INTERESTS OF THE JAPANESE AND BRITISH
SHIPPING INDUSTRIES WHICH HAS PREVAILED FOR SO MANY YEARS.
THEY DISCUSSED IN PARTICULAR THE CONVENTION ON A CODE OF LINER
CONFERENCE PRACTICE WHICH WAS PREPARED UNDER UNCTAD AUSPICES IN 1974.
THEY SHARED THE VIEW THAT AS AN ULTIMATE OBJECTIVE AN INTERNATIONAL
SYSTEM WHICH WAS UNIVERSALLY AGREED IN ITS SCOPE AND INTERPRETA-
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TION, WHICH WAS PRACTICABLE IN ITS WORKING AND WHICH DID NOT

PERMIT UNFAIR DISCRIMINATION, PROTECTION OR COMPETITION, WOULD BE DESIRABLE IN THE INTERESTS OF THE SHIPPING AND TRADING INDUSTRIES OF BOTH DEVELOPING AND DEVELOPED COUNTRIES. BUT THEY CONSIDERED THAT THE 1974 CONVENTION FELL FAR SHORT OF THESE OBJECTIVES AND THAT JAPANESE AND BRITISH SHIPOWNERS SHOULD WORK TOGETHER WITH OTHER INTERESTS TO ACHIEVE IN DUE COURSE A MORE ACCEPTABLE AND PRACTICABLE ARRANGEMENT.

BOTH PARTIES AGREED THAT IT WAS ESSENTIAL TO HAVE THE FOLLOWING THREE POINTS CLEARLY ESTABLISHED BEFORE ANY CODE COULD BE ACCEPTABLE, I.E.,

(1) THE MAJORITY OF COUNTRIES BOTH DEVELOPED, DEVELOPING AND SOCIALIST BLOC TO MAINTAIN THE CODE.

(2) THE CODE SHOULD BE THE MAXIMUM CEILING AND NOT THE FLOOR AND NATIONAL LEGISLATION SHOULD NOT OVERRIDE IT.

(3) THE INTERNATIONAL OF SUCH A CODE BY ALL COUNTRIES MUST BE IDENTICAL.

AS TO THE COUNTER MEASURES AGAINST FLAG DISCRIMINATION, BRITISH DELEGATES EXPLAINED THAT THEIR COUNTRY HAVE ENACTED THIS LAST JULY, AND IT HAS NOT BEEN NECESSARY TO INVOKE IT.

THEY THOUGHT THAT THE FACT THEY HAVE SUCH LEGISLATION WILL MAKE THEIR POSITION STRONGER. THIS GAVE JSA ALL THE MORE REASON TO ASK JAPANESE GOVERNMENT TO ENACT COUNTER MEASURES. END TEXT.
HODGSON

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